

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Empire Mine Site Assessment - Magenta Drain Portal Dye Tracer Test

LOCATION: Empire Mine State Historic Park

COUNTY: Nevada

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

As part of the assessment of the source of water that exits the Magenta Drain Portal (Portal), a dye tracer test is planned to determine if upstream surface water is entering the Magenta Drain Tunnel via subsurface percolation. The test consists of introducing a measured quantity of non-toxic dye into the stream channel above the Portal exit. This is the area where the flow in the stream channel disappears into the subsurface and may be percolating into the Magenta Tunnel. The stream channel downstream of the portal will be monitored for presence of the dye. The dye will be diluted per California Department of Fish and Game specifications. The dye will stain the surface water and groundwater either red or green (depending upon the dye used). Downstream landowners adjacent to the creek and nearby water well users will be notified of the test and the potential for staining of the water.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Northern Service Center

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 6

Section: 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities that will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, consistent with Information Collection activities included on the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

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Kathy Amann, Northern Service Center Manager Date